

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

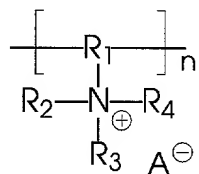
1. An ink composition comprising water, a colorant, and sodium tetraphenylboride.

2. An ink composition according to claim 1 wherein the sodium tetraphenylboride is present in the ink in an amount of at least about 0.1 percent by weight of the ink, and wherein the sodium tetraphenylboride is present in the ink in an amount of no more than about 10 percent by weight of the ink.

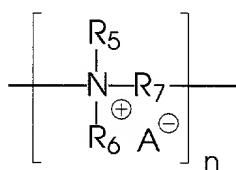
3. A set of inks for printing multicolor images in an ink jet printer, said ink set comprising (1) a first ink having a first color and comprising water, a first colorant, and at least one of (a) a cationic polymer, (b) a cationic surfactant, or (c) an inorganic salt the cation of which has a tetraphenylboride salt that is substantially insoluble in water; and (2) a second ink having a second color different from the first color and comprising water, a second colorant, and sodium tetraphenylboride, wherein intercolor bleed between the first ink and the second ink is reduced when the second ink is printed adjacent to, on top of, or underneath the first ink on a print substrate.

4. An ink set according to claim 3 wherein the first ink contains a cationic polymer.

5. An ink set according to claim 4 wherein the cationic polymer is a polyquaternary amine compound of the general formulae



or



wherein n is an integer representing the number of repeat monomer units, R₁ and R₇ each, independently of the other, is an alkylene group, an arylene group, an arylalkylene group, or an alkylarylene group, and R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, and R₆ each, independently of the others, are hydrogen atoms, alkyl groups, aryl groups, arylalkyl groups, or alkylaryl groups.

6. An ink set according to claim 4 wherein the cationic polymer is selected from the group consisting of polydiallyl ammonium compounds, polyquaternized polyvinylamines, polyquaternized polyallyl amines, epichlorohydrin/amine copolymers, cationic amido amine copolymers, copolymers of vinyl pyrrolidinone and a vinyl imidazolium salt, and mixtures thereof.

7. An ink set according to claim 4 wherein the cationic polymer is a polydiallyl dimethyl ammonium compound.

8. An ink set according to claim 4 wherein the cationic polymer is present in the ink in an amount of at least about 0.01 percent by weight of the first ink and wherein the cationic polymer is present in the ink in an amount of no more than about 25 percent by weight of the first ink.

9. An ink set according to claim 4 wherein the first colorant in the first ink is an anionic dye.

10. An ink set according to claim 4 wherein the first ink comprises water and a colorant comprising an anionic dye complexed with a polyquaternary amine compound.

11. An ink set according to claim 3 wherein the first ink contains a cationic surfactant.

15. An ink set according to claim 3 wherein the first ink contains an inorganic salt the cation of which has a tetraphenylboride salt that is substantially insoluble in water.

16. An ink set according to claim 15 wherein the inorganic salt has a cation selected from the group consisting of tetramethylammonium, tetraethylammonium, tetrabutylammonium, pyridinium, N-methyl pyridinium, K^+ , Rb^+ , Cs^+ , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Sr^{2+} , Ba^{2+} , La^{3+} , Zn^{2+} , Al^{3+} , Eu^{3+} , Gd^{3+} , and mixtures thereof.

17. An ink set according to claim 15 wherein the inorganic salt is selected from the group consisting of tetramethyl ammonium chloride, tetraethyl ammonium chloride, tetrabutyl ammonium chloride, pyridinium chloride, N-methyl pyridinium chloride, potassium chloride, rubidium chloride, cesium chloride, magnesium chloride, strontium chloride, barium chloride, zinc chloride, aluminum nitrate, europium chloride, gadolinium chloride, and mixtures thereof.

18. An ink set according to claim 15 wherein the inorganic salt is present in the first ink in an amount of at least about 0.1 percent by weight of the ink, and wherein the inorganic salt is present in the first ink in an amount of no more than about 15 percent by weight of the ink.

19. A multicolor ink jet printing process which comprises:
 (1) incorporating into an ink jet printer a first ink having a first color and comprising water, a first colorant, and at least one of (a) a cationic polymer, (b) a cationic surfactant, or (c) an inorganic salt the cation of which has a tetraphenylboride salt that is substantially insoluble in water; (2) incorporating into the ink jet printer a second ink having a second color different from the first color and comprising water, a second colorant, and sodium tetraphenylboride; (3) causing droplets of the first ink to be ejected in an imagewise pattern onto a substrate; and (4) causing droplets of the second ink to be ejected in an imagewise pattern onto the substrate, wherein intercolor bleed between the first ink and the second ink is reduced when the second ink is printed adjacent to, on top of, or underneath the first ink on the substrate.

20. A printing process according to claim 19 wherein the printer employs a thermal ink jet process wherein the ink in the nozzles is selectively heated in an imagewise pattern, thereby causing droplets of the ink to be ejected in imagewise pattern.